

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 26, 2004 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration of this application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification and Drawings

Paragraphs at pages 8, 16, 20 and 22 have been amended to correct minor grammatical informalities (e.g., adding missing words, correction of sentence fragments and misspellings, etc.) and an incorrect reference numeral. The description of Figure 14 at page 19 was amended to remove the reference to reference numeral 1402 to make the specification consistent with the drawing. In addition, paragraphs at page 21 describing Figure 16 have been amended to provide clarifying references that connect reference numerals and data in prior figures to the product graph shown in Figure 16. None of these amendments add new matter.

Figure 16 has been amended to add reference numeral 1646 which was inadvertently omitted from the drawing as originally as filed. Reference numeral 1646 is referenced at page 21, line 24.

The Claims

Claims 1 – 20, including independent claims 1 and 17 are pending in this application prior to entry of this Amendment. Claims 3, 5, 15 and 18 have been canceled and the claim dependencies of claims 6 and 16, which formerly respectively depended from now-cancelled claims, have been amended. The undersigned thanks the Examiner for pointing out the possible claim dependency change of claim 6 in the Remark at page 4 of the Office Action. Claims 11 and 20 have been amended to correct grammatical informalities. After entry of this amendment, claims 1 – 2, 4, 6 – 14, 16 - 17 and 19 - 20 are pending in this application, including independent claims 1 and 17.

35 USC § 112

In the Office Action, Claim 7 was rejected, at page 4, under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. The term "said scrambling" in claim 7, which depends from claim 4, was found to have no antecedent basis and it was suggested that claim 7 should depend instead from claim 5.

The limitation of claim 5 has been incorporated into claim 7 and claim 5 has been cancelled. It is believed that the dependency of claim 7 from claim 4 is correct as written now that the limitation of claim 5 has been incorporated therein. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject matter: Claims 3, 5, 6 – 7, 10 - 16 and 18 - 20

In the Office Action, claims 3, 5, 6 – 7, 10 - 16 and 18 – 20 were objected to, at page 5, as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Office Action notes that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5 and 16 have been cancelled herein and are omitted from this discussion.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter, and have amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 3, and independent claim 17 to include the limitations of claim 18, and have cancelled claims 3 and 18.

In view of the indication in the Office Action of the allowable subject matter, it is believed that these amendments place independent claims 1 and 17 in condition for allowance.

Insofar as claims 2, 4, 6 – 14, 16 and 19 - 20 are concerned, these dependent claims include the respective limitations of, and depend from now

Appl. No. 09/574,268
Amdt. dated June 2004
Reply to Office action of March 26, 2004

presumably allowable, amended independent claims 1 and 17 and are also believed to be in allowable condition for the reasons discussed with regard to their respective independent claims.

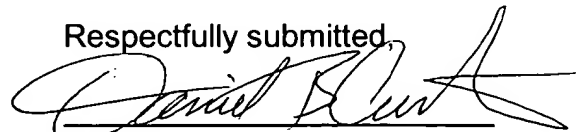
Reconsideration Requested

The undersigned respectfully submits that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the rejections of the claims raised in the Office Action dated March 26, 2004 have been fully addressed and overcome, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, that these claims be allowed, and that this case be passed to issue.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation authorized attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby authorized to call Applicant's attorney, Daniel B. Curtis, at Telephone Number (650) 812-4259, Palo Alto, California.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel B. Curtis
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 39,159
Telephone: 650-812-4259

Date: 6/24/04

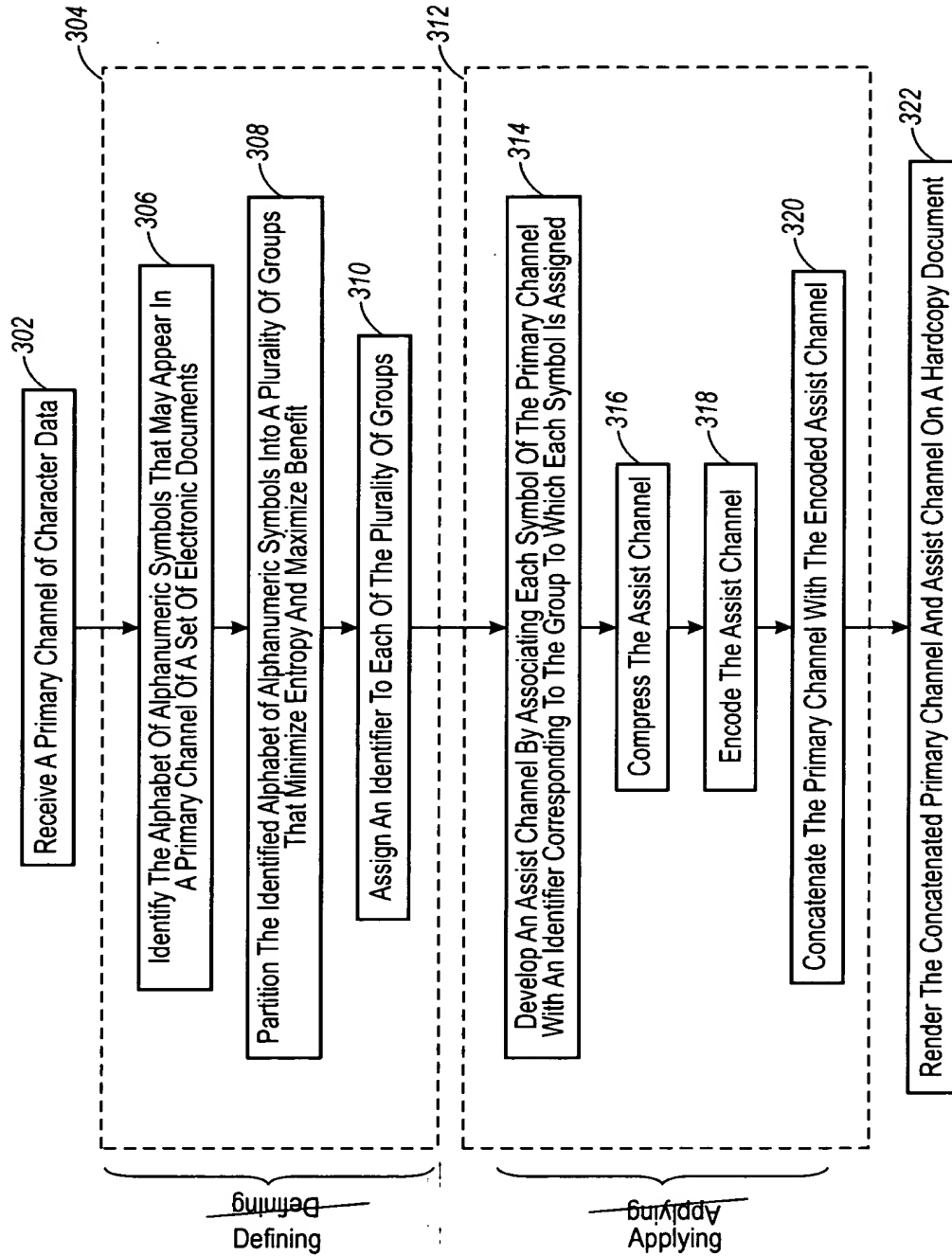


FIG. 3

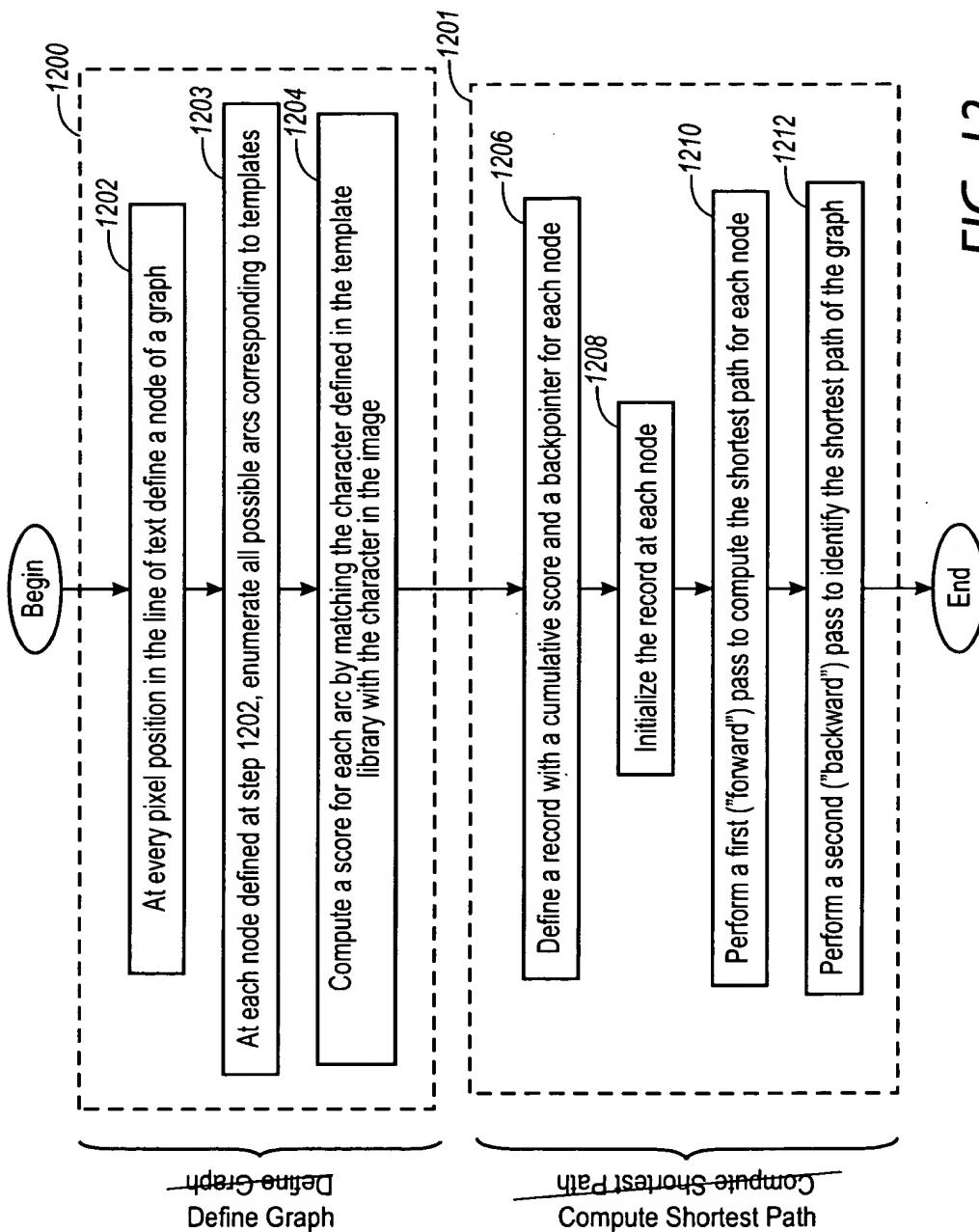


FIG. 12

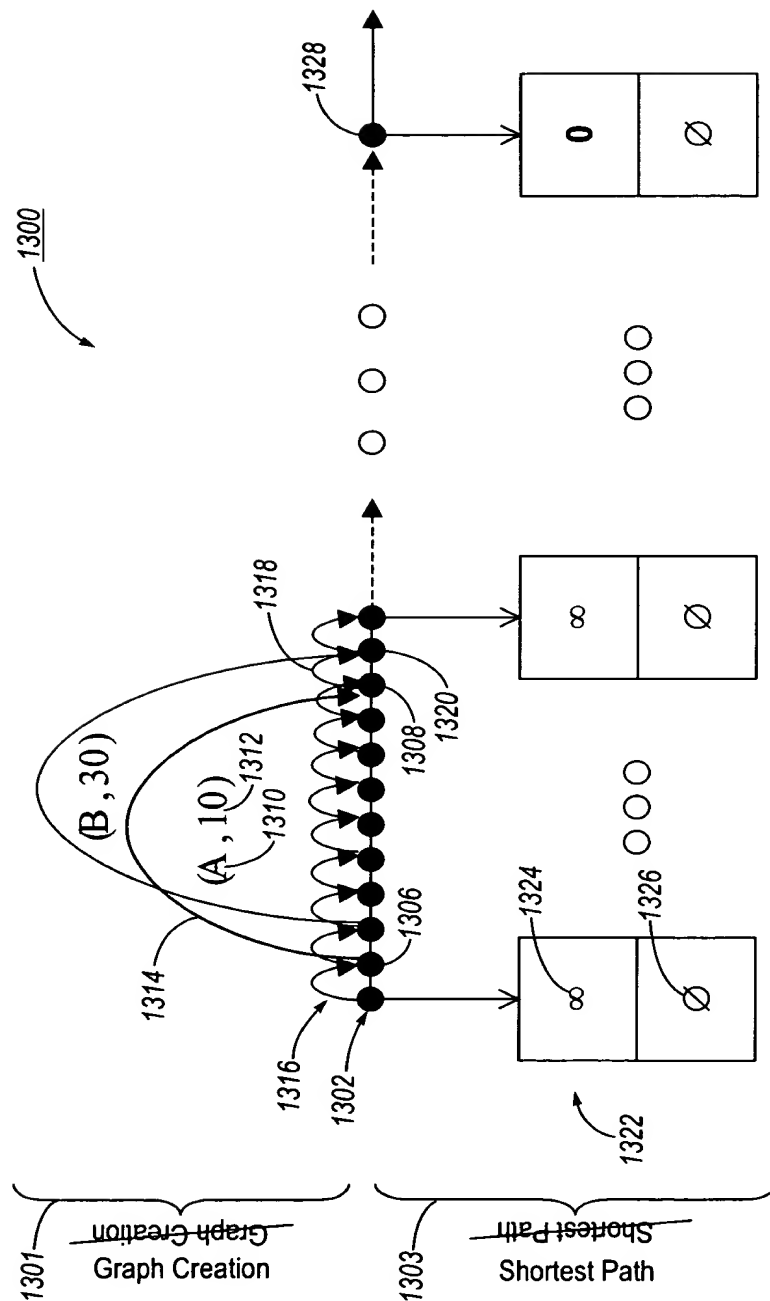


FIG. 13

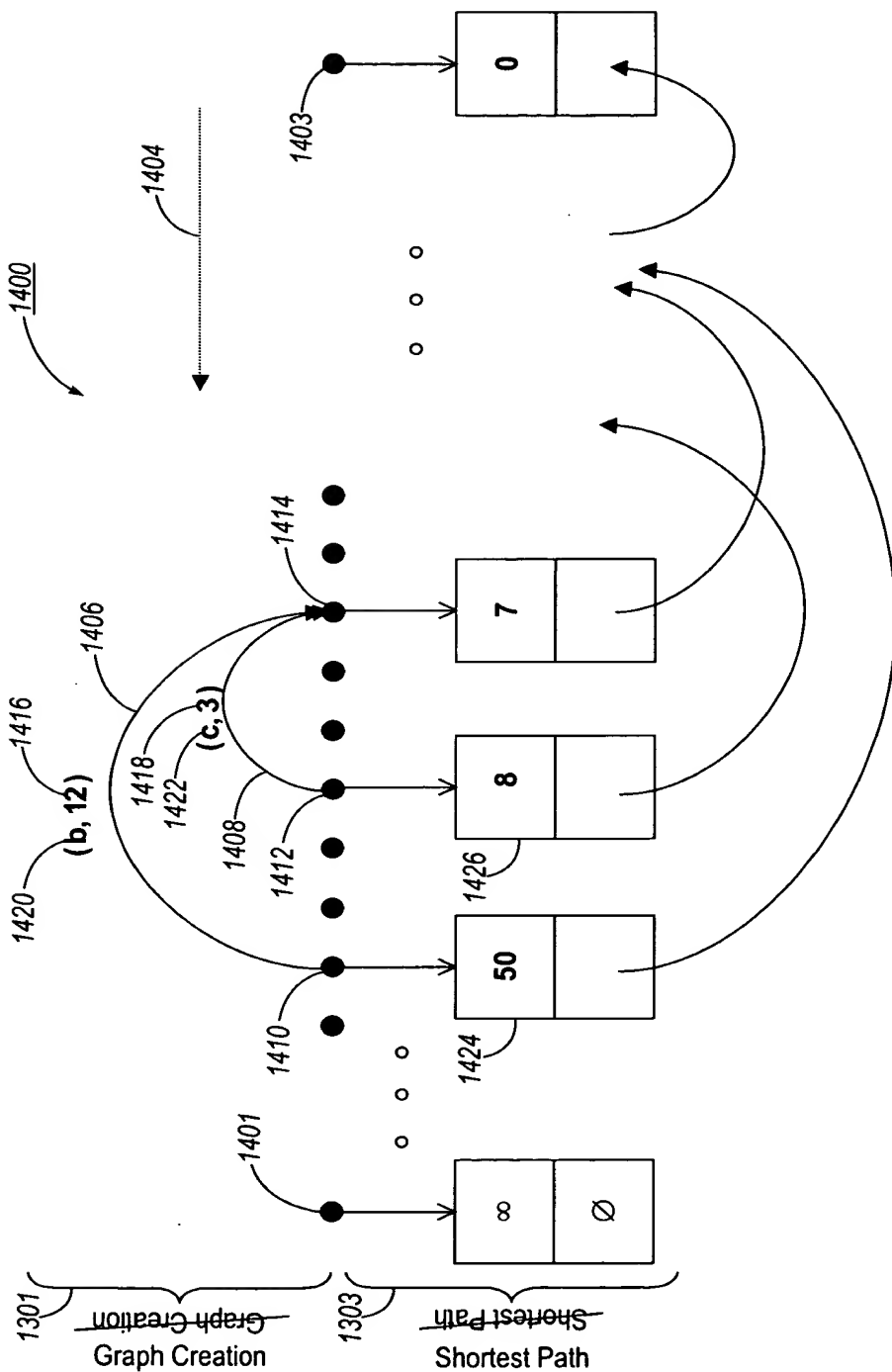


FIG. 14

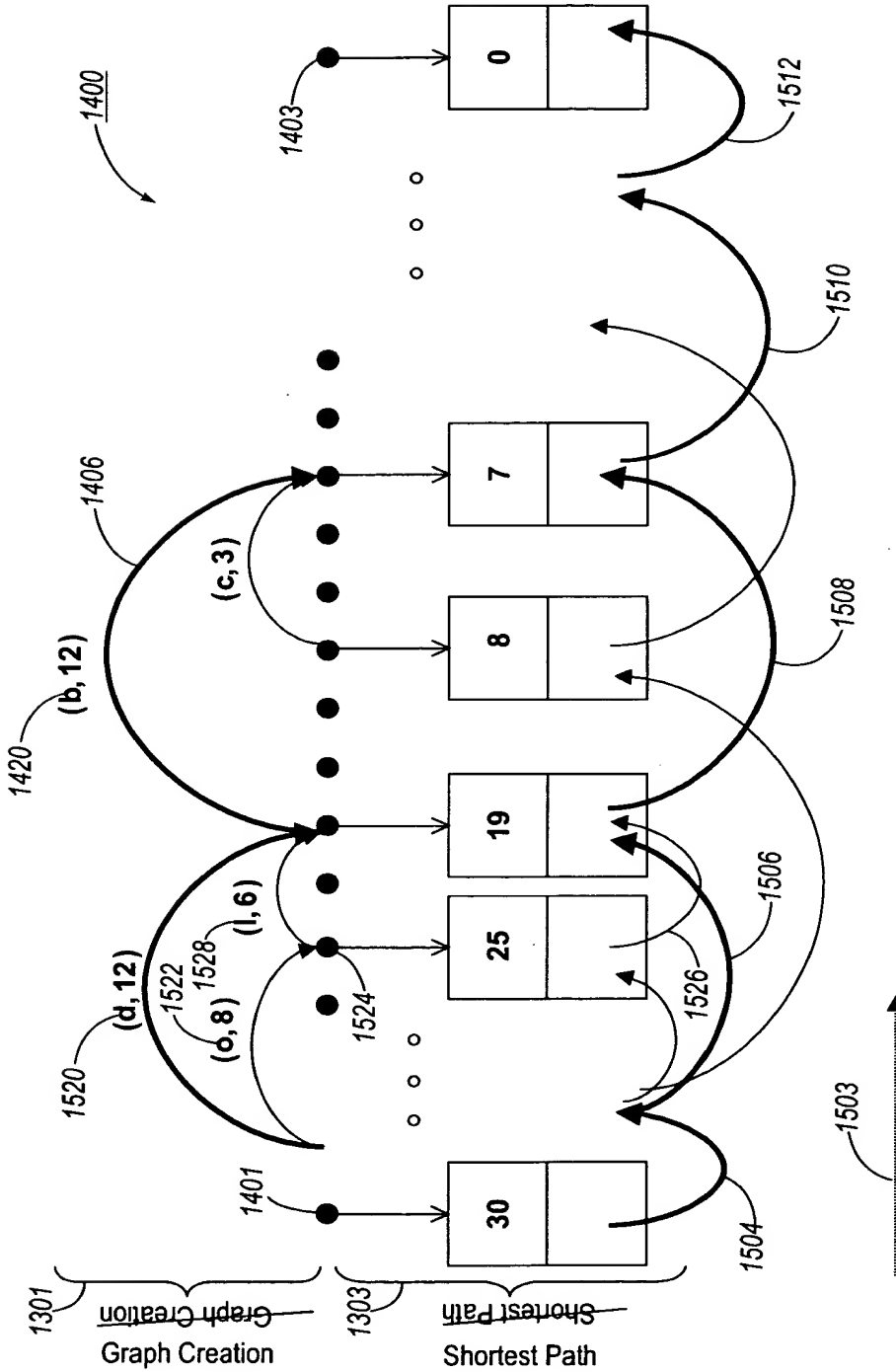


FIG. 15

FIG. 16

